



Report of the Assembly Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee for the 2025 Synod Assembly, chaired by Judy Castelee, reviewed all positions to be filled and attempted, where possible, to present more than one nominee for each position to be filled in a particular category.

The committee presents the following slate of nominees for:

Synod Council

Nominee for Class of 2027 – 1 member (*Synod Council appointed in 2024*)

- One Lay Member, young adult (30 or younger), any gender:
 - Germanna
 - No nominee identified by the time of the report

Nominees for Class of 2029 – 6 members

- One Lay Member, man:
 - Piedmont
 - No nominee identified by the time of the report
- One Lay Member, man:
 - Appalachia
 - No nominee identified by the time of the report
- One Lay Member, any gender:
 - At-Large
 - Patricia Corliss
 - Karen Sutton
- One Lay Member, any gender:
 - Person of Color or whose primary language is other than English
 - Sylvia Eley
 - Cedric Wilson
- One Rostered Minister (Pastor or Deacon):
 - Coastal- woman
 - Deacon Liz Brendle Fox
 - Deacon Lisa Geiger
 - Rev. Tina Melusky
 - Rev. Jennifer Osheim-Owen
- One Rostered Minister (Pastor or Deacon):
 - Valley- woman
 - Rev. Kristen Van Stee



Report of the Assembly Nominating Committee

Committee on Discipline

Nominees for Class of 2031 - 4 members (6-year term)

- Three to be elected, lay members: at least 1 man, 1 woman, 1 any gender
 - Woman
 - Erin Hagar
 - Man
 - No nominee identified by the time of the report
 - Any Gender
 - No nominee identified by the time of the report
- One to be elected, rostered minister: 1 any gender
 - Rev. Joel Neubauer

ELCA Church Council

Nominee for Class of 2031 - 1 to be elected (6-year term)

- Lay Member - Woman - person of color and/or whose primary language is other than English - Young Adult (at the time of the synod assembly between 18-30 years old)
 - No nominee identified by the time of the report
 - (Note: While Jillian Stierwalt has already been nominated for the position at the 2024 Synod Assembly, the ELCA Constitution requests that two nominees be presented to allow attendees at the 2025 Churchwide Assembly to vote for one of two candidates.)



Roles to be Elected at the 2025 Assembly

Virginia Synod Council

The Virginia Synod Council serves a visionary role in the Virginia Synod. In conjunction with the Office of the Bishop, the Council reviews and coordinates all planning proposals and establishes synod priorities. The members of the Synod Council share their various gifts for the purposes of God's mission and ministry through the Virginia Synod and through the churchwide organization of the ELCA.

The Synod Council also serves as the board of directors of the Virginia Synod and meets quarterly to supervise the administration of the synod. These leaders are elected by the Synod Assembly. The Synod Council is composed of members of congregations from across the Virginia Synod, including both rostered ministers (pastors and deacons) and laypeople (those not ordained).

Unless otherwise noted, all Synod Council terms are 4 years. Members may be elected to a second consecutive term.

What are the conference partnerships in the Virginia Synod?

Reflecting the diversity across the Virginia Synod, the goal of Synod Council elections is to have a lay person and a rostered minister from each of these five Conference Partnerships:

- Coastal (Tidewater and Peninsulas Conferences)
- Piedmont (Richmond and Germanna Conferences)
- Valley (Northern Valley, Central Valley, and Page Conferences)
- Blue Ridge (Southern Valley and Southern Conferences)
- Appalachia (New River and Highlands Conferences)

Class of 2027 – 1 member (*Synod Council appointed in 2024*)

- **ONE Lay Member, young adult (30 or younger), any gender:**
 - Germanna

Class of 2029 – 6 members

- **ONE Lay Member, man:**
 - Piedmont
- **ONE Lay Member, man:**
 - Appalachia
- **ONE Lay Member, any gender:**
 - At-Large



Class of 2029 *(continued)*

- **ONE Lay Member, any gender:**
 - Person of Color or whose primary language is other than English
- **ONE Rostered Minister (Pastor or Deacon):**
 - Coastal- woman
- **ONE Rostered Minister (Pastor or Deacon):**
 - Valley- woman

Committee on Discipline

The Virginia Synod Committee on Discipline serves the Consultation and Discipline Process in this church. The consultation and discipline process assures due process and due protection for the accused, other parties, and this church in the discipline process, which governs officers, rostered ministers, congregations, and members of congregations. When charges are brought following the consultation process, the detailed Disciplinary Process is outlined in the ELCA Constitution and Bylaws (**20.22.17.**) takes effect.

Class of 2031 - 4 members (6-year term)

- **Three** to be elected, lay members: at least 1 man, 1 woman, 1 any gender
- **One** to be elected, rostered minister: 1 any gender

ELCA Church Council

The Church Council operates as part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and serves as both a governing body and community of faith in the Lutheran tradition. The Council must comply with the Continuing Resolutions of ELCA and policies adopted by the Churchwide Assembly, while recognizing its interdependent partnership with synods and congregations in the ELCA's mission. It must provide advice and encouragement to other expressions of the church and exercise fiduciary, strategic, and generative leadership to fulfill the church's mission. The Governance Policy Manual outlines the Council's responsibilities to better fulfill the church's mission and clarify its governance responsibilities.

Class of 2031 - 1 to be elected (6-year term)

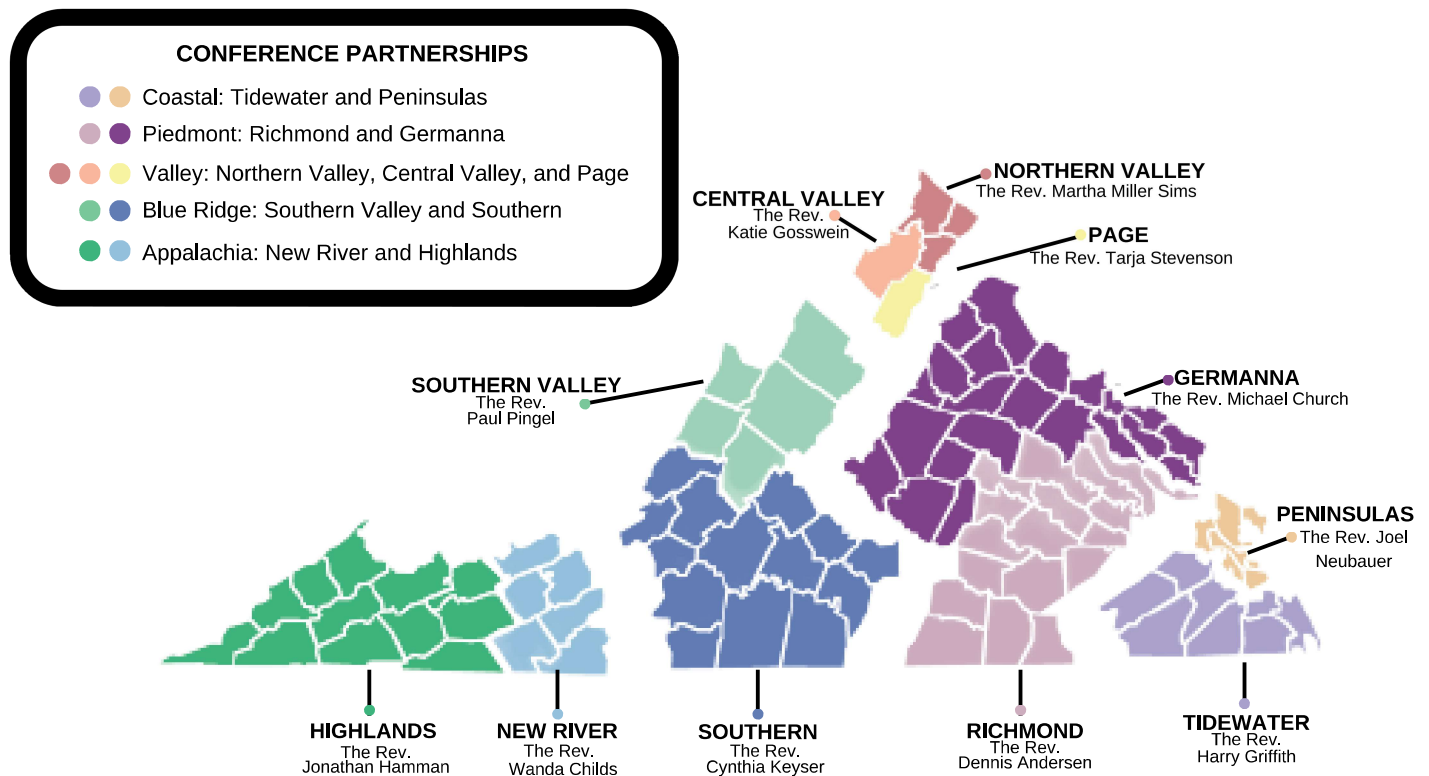
- Lay Member - Woman - person of color and/or whose primary language is other than English - Young Adult (at the time of the synod assembly between 18-30 years old)



Virginia Synod Conferences and Abbreviation Map

In January of 2019, Synod Council approved the creation of five Conference Partnerships (listed below) to provide for communication between this synod and conferences, promote or provide assistance for programs or projects, and provide balanced representation to certain organizational units. (S12.01.52.).

The Virginia Synod, ELCA Conference Map



The Virginia Synod is divided into eleven conferences. Deans serve as representatives, advisors, and communication links between Rostered Ministers (pastors and deacons) and lay leaders in each of the conferences and the Office of the Bishop.

The 11 conferences that make up the Virginia Synod and the abbreviation we use for each:

- Central Valley-CV
- Germanna-GR
- Highlands-HI
- New River-NR
- Northern Valley-NV
- Page-PG
- Peninsulas-PN
- Richmond-RI
- Southern-SO
- Southern Valley-SV
- Tidewater-TD



Intertwining
Hope



Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly

Nominee For: Virginia Synod Council

Virginia Synod Council

Nominee For: Synod Council: Class of 2029-Lay Member at-large (any partnership), any gender

Gender Female

Age at the time of the Synod Assembly 31 or older

Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English No

Nominee Contact Information

Name Preferred Patricia Corliss

Pronouns she/her/hers

Congregation/Parish Name and Location St. Timothy, Norfolk

Conference Tidewater

Conference Partnership Coastal (Tidewater & Peninsulas)

Nominee Experience

Nominee Occupation Retired Registered Nurse - Present/Church Secretary

List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)
Working/Volunteering with St. Timothy's Food Pantry
Working as a Registered Nurse
Congregational Representative to Virginia Synod



List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

Sunday School Teacher Sunday School Superintendent
Church Council Member Church Council Secretary
Presently Church Secretary
Election Officer/Poll Worker
Substitute School Teacher

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

Volunteer with Thrivent to El Salvador and the Dominican Republic to assist with building shelters for families
This is a self-nomination

Will serve if elected

Submission

Name of person submitting the form

Patricia Corliss

Signature

Date Submitted:

Apr 30, 2025

Intertwining
Hope**Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly****Nominee For:** Virginia Synod Council**Virginia Synod Council****Nominee For:** Synod Council: Class of 2029-Lay Member at-large
(any partnership), any gender**Gender** Female**Age at the time of the Synod Assembly** 31 or older**Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English** No**Nominee Contact Information****Name** Karen Sutton**Preferred Pronouns** she, her**Congregation/Parish Name and Location** St. John, Norfolk**Conference** Tidewater**Conference Partnership** Coastal (Tidewater & Peninsulas)**Nominee Experience****Nominee Occupation** Retired network engineer/software specialist, CHKD**List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)** Church Council member
synod assembly delegate, four times
call committee member



List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

currently financial secretary
Communion Assistant/lector
past council secretary

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

Civic league delegate to state corporation commission
past president Tidewater Data Processing Management Association

Will serve if elected

Yes

Submission

Name of person submitting the form

Harry Griffith

Signature

H.G. NES

Date Submitted:

May 07, 2025



Intertwining
Hope



Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly

Nominee For: Virginia Synod Council

Virginia Synod Council

Nominee For: Synod Council: Class of 2029-Lay Member, person of color or whose primary language is other than English, any gender

Gender Female

Age at the time of the Synod Assembly 31 or older

Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English Yes

Nominee Contact Information

Name Sylvia A Eley

Congregation/Parish Name and Location St. Timothy, Norfolk

Conference Tidewater

Conference Partnership Coastal (Tidewater & Peninsulas)

**Nominee Experience****Nominee Occupation**

Insurance Agent

List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)

My gifts are used to the glory of God. For six years, I have served as a board member for the VSWO including two years as Vice President.

Currently, I am Tapestry Team member, serving as the Co-Chair for Women's Mission and Justice.

In addition these experiences, I have been appointed to serve on the Racial Justice Task Force for Women of the ELCA.

List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

My commitment to God and the kingdom's work has led me to participate in Synod events, including conducting a workshop on Racism at Power in the Spirit and as a reader at Bishop Humphrey's installation. During the Tenth Triennial Convention (2017) in Minneapolis, MN, and the Twelfth Triennial Convention(2023) in Phoenix, AZ, I represented the state as a voting member.

I am a memeber of the Chesapeake Medical Reserve Corp.

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)**Will serve if elected**

Yes

Submission**Name of person submitting the form**

Sylvia Eley

Signature**Date Submitted:**

May 09, 2025

**Intertwining
Hope****Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly****Nominee For:** Virginia Synod Council**Virginia Synod Council****Nominee For:** Synod Council: Class of 2029-Lay Member, person of color or whose primary language is other than English, any gender**Gender** Male**Age at the time of the Synod Assembly** 31 or older**Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English** Yes**Nominee Contact Information****Name** Cedric Wilson**Congregation/Parish Name and Location** St. Philip, Roanoke**Conference** Southern**Conference Partnership** Blue Ridge (Southern & Southern Valley)**Nominee Experience****Nominee Occupation** Mental Health Therapist**List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)** I bring a diverse and holistic background shaped by years of leadership in both professional and ministry settings. As the Founder of Seeking Wellness Counseling Services, I have cultivated a practice centered on emotional healing, resilience, and culturally safe spaces-values that deeply align with the inclusive and compassionate mission of the Virginia Synod. My work involves supervising a team of clinicians, facilitating community engagement, and supporting individual and group wellness.

**List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)**

Beyond my professional role, I have maintained a consistent and active presence in church ministry throughout my life. My ministry journey began in youth leadership during high school, extended through college and post-college years as a young-adult, during which I regularly facilitated group discussions, planned retreats, and supported worship and fellowship programming. My combined experience in mental health leadership and congregational ministry has helped me develop a collaborative leadership style rooted in discernment, empathy, and the belief that the Spirit moves most freely when we create brave, inclusive, and relational spaces.

List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

I have served the church in various capacities, including youth ministry leadership from high school through post-college, and as a Church Council member from 2015 to 2018.

In addition, I have served as a member of the ELCA's Churchwide Young Adult Steering Committee from 2023-2024

Finally, I currently serve as a member of Caroline Furnace Camp and Retreat Center's DEI committee.

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

I have consistently engaged in community service that bridges mental health, advocacy, and justice. I currently serve on the Roanoke City Human Services Advisory Board, where I help evaluate and guide funding priorities for local social service initiatives. I also serve on the Advocacy Committee of the Virginia Counselors Association, where I contribute to statewide efforts to shape policy and promote mental health access and equity.

In addition to these formal roles, I have participated as a panel expert at Virginia's Conference on Race, offering insights on racial trauma, systemic inequities, and paths to healing.

This is a self-nomination

Will serve if elected**Submission****Name of person submitting the form**

Cedric Wilson

Signature**Date Submitted:**

May 09, 2025



Intertwining
Hope



Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly

Nominee For: Virginia Synod Council

Virginia Synod Council

Nominee For: Synod Council: Class of 2029-Rostered Minister from Coastal Partnership, woman

Gender Female

Age at the time of the Synod Assembly 31 or older

Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English No

Nominee Contact Information

Name Elizabeth (Liz) Brendle Fox

Congregation/Parish Name and Location Gloria Dei, Hampton

Conference Peninsulas

Conference Partnership Coastal (Tidewater & Peninsulas)

Nominee Experience

Nominee Occupation Deacon (Hampton Healthy Families)

List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)

- faithful service (in various public settings) to the call of Word and Service
- wide view and experience of ELCA (and full communion partner) systems and cultures in the Midwest and South/East Coast
- firsthand perspective of parenthood, community needs and clergy relationships and the needs/resources for comprehensive physical, mental, spiritual and social safety among all people



List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

-As a deacon, works closely with fellow ordained colleagues (deacons and pastors) to preach and to provide care-filled leadership within congregations--bearing witness to the valid and vital overlap between service inside and outside the specific lives of congregations. -active ministry in several synods in the northern Plains and South/East Coast (and as called previously with partners in the United Methodist Church) provide a wider cope of experience and exposure to innovative ways for the church to live in our local expressions -raising an adolescent child, sharing a homelife that yokes a pastor's perspective with a deacon's experience, working with Hampton Healthy Families to provide appropriate access to resources for all people: these are skills that could speak well to the comprehensive needs of our synod today.

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

-creative work with sewing and openness to help others build creative confidence and self-supporting skillsets
-panelist for "All In A Day's Work: Deacons, The Duct Tape That Holds The Church Together" with 2024 Mid-Winter Power in the Spirit Yes

Will serve if elected

Submission

Name of person submitting the form

Joel Neubauer

Signature

Date Submitted:

May 05, 2025

Intertwining
Hope**Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly****Nominee For:** Virginia Synod Council**Virginia Synod Council****Nominee For:** Synod Council: Class of 2029-Rostered Minister from Coastal Partnership, woman**Gender** Female**Age at the time of the Synod Assembly** 31 or older**Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English** No**Nominee Contact Information****Name** Deacon Lisa J Geiger**Congregation/Parish Name and Location** Emmanuel, Virginia Beach**Conference** Tidewater**Conference Partnership** Coastal (Tidewater & Peninsulas)**Nominee Experience****Nominee Occupation** Director of Continuing Education; Instructional Technologist, Virginia Wesleyan University**List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)**

I have more than thirty years' corporate experience in managerial, administrative, technical, educational, and customer support work.

As a Deacon, my specialization area is Church Administration. I was the Church Operations Manager for First Lutheran, Norfolk. The key strengths that I possess that I feel are beneficial for serving on Synod Council include an ability to work on multiple tasks, strong communication skills, and process and detailed-oriented.



List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

Since 2018, I have been serving as the Candidacy Committee Process Administrator where my responsibilities include working with new and continuing candidates to ensure they have submitted all of the required forms and information for each phase of the candidacy process.

I have also been serving as Secretary of the Assembly for Synod Assembly since 2018.

I have served on Congregation Councils as a lay member, including Council President, and as a rostered leader when I served in the parish.

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

Food Pantry coordinator/volunteer at St. Michael, Virginia Beach.

Birdneck Elementary Outreach - food bags for 50+ students during their Thanksgiving and Spring breaks, as well as a school supply drive in the summer.

Support the People in Need (PIN) Ministry partnership and food pantry work at my current congregation.

Will serve if elected

This is a self-nomination

Submission

Name of person submitting the form

Lisa Geiger

Signature

Date Submitted:

May 10, 2025

**Intertwining
Hope****Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly****Nominee For:** Virginia Synod Council**Virginia Synod Council****Nominee For:** Synod Council: Class of 2029-Rostered Minister from Coastal Partnership, woman**Gender** Female**Age at the time of the Synod Assembly** 31 or older**Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English** No**Nominee Contact Information****Name** Tina Melusky**Congregation/Parish Name and Location** Trinity, Newport News**Conference****Conference Partnership** Peninsulas

Coastal (Tidewater & Peninsulas)

Nominee Experience**Nominee Occupation** Pastor**List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)**

- faithful service in call to Word and Sacrament (as parish pastor and to parochial school [preK-8])
- active and continued commitment to peace and justice, locally and globally
- experience of working on a synodical level for clergy and lay ministry needs



Nominee Experience

List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

-As pastor to a congregation and school, administrative tasks have been well used alongside pastoral skills--especially helpful in times of personnel transition (e.g. church musicians, school leaders and teachers) and pastoral ministry (e.g. extending gospel care in times of grief, crisis). -Peace and justice as gospel ministry have been seen in the leadership for the congregation to be explicitly Reconciling in Christ, to host emergency shelters for unhoused neighbors, and to take part internationally in medical service in Central America. -On a regional level for clergy and lay ministry, has served on our First Call Theological Education team for three years, as well as the youth planning committee for three years; active in local synod conference and with ecumenical partners.

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

-life of joy and compassion as guardian of a beloved dog, through puppyhood and health concerns of older age
-continued education through United Lutheran Seminary to stay connected and to grow in relationship with peers and current theological understandings

Will serve if elected

Yes

Submission

Name of person submitting the form

Joel Neubauer

Signature

Date Submitted:

May 05, 2025

**Intertwining
Hope****Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly****Nominee For:** Virginia Synod Council**Virginia Synod Council****Nominee For:** Synod Council: Class of 2029-Rostered Minister from Coastal Partnership, woman**Gender** Female**Age at the time of the Synod Assembly** 31 or older**Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English** No**Nominee Contact Information****Name** Jennifer Osheim-Owen**Congregation/Parish Name and Location** First, Norfolk**Conference** Peninsulas**Conference Partnership** Coastal (Tidewater & Peninsulas)**Nominee Experience****Nominee Occupation** Chaplain at Williamsburg Landing (Pastor)**List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)**

- faithful ministry to Word and Sacrament in congregational and specialized settings
- the unique experience as a pastor in an ecumenical chaplaincy position for a non-church community
- experience of ELCA synods and cultures across the midwest and in coastal south



List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

-Knowledge of the pastoral role and experience in congregational settings AND in residential, non-congregational settings provides a bridge understanding of the gospel in various circumstances
-Current work with an ecumenical partner in chaplaincy, and caring for the varied spiritual needs of ecumenical/inter-religious, provides a wide framework of adaptability to meet people where they are.
-Wide experiences of church life and culture across various ELCA regions helps to offer fresh perspectives of ministry possibilities in our synod

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

-Board Certified Chaplain, demonstrating a focused program of graduate semester hours or equivalent credits to provide accountable care for others
-In a 2017 profile by Chad Thompson, Pastor Osheim-Owen shared: "'My mission statement, so to speak, is that I really feel that people want to be seen, heard, and valued, and my goal is to provide a venue for that.... I do a lot of listening,' ... 'Listening to what's going on. I am not necessarily here to fix something, but to provide that listening ear to provide that assurance that God is in our midst.'"

Will serve if elected

Yes

Submission

Name of person submitting the form

Joel Neubauer

Signature

Date Submitted:

May 05, 2025



Intertwining
Hope



Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly

Nominee For: Virginia Synod Council

Virginia Synod Council

Nominee For: Synod Council: Class of 2029-Rostered Minister from Valley Partnership, woman

Gender female

Age at the time of the Synod Assembly 31 or older

Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English No

Nominee Contact Information

Name Rev. Kristen E Van Stee

Preferred Pronouns she/her/hers

Congregation/Parish Name and Location Mt. Zion, New Market

Conference Central Valley

Conference Partnership Valley (Central Valley, Northern Valley, & Page)



Nominee Experience

Nominee Occupation

Ordained Pastor

List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)

As I consider one of the overarching themes of my ministry the past ten years, a spiritual thread that runs through it all is that of discernment. I have served as a pastor to small rural congregations in the cornfields of Nebraska, and I have also served on synod staff and on churchwide staff. While the settings and the scope of the ministry was all very different, I felt myself to be part of a faithful group of people who were striving to discern signs of Christ's Kingdom breaking into this world and how the Holy Spirit was inviting us to be a part of it.

While I have sat in on many positive ministry meetings over the years, the difficult meetings were perhaps where I felt the hard work of discernment the most. We struggled as a group to find common ground, maintain the peace of Christ, and discern God's truth somewhere in mess.

1)I served a two point parish as my first call and walked with one of the congregations as they finally discerned it was time to close as a congregation.

2)With the bishop and the NE Synod Consultation Committee we accompanied a congregation through the constitutional consultation process.

3)I met with several Nebraska synod congregations that were discerning disaffiliating with the ELCA and accompanied them through the constitutional process while also providing pastoral care.



List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

1) Served as half-time Assistant to the Bishop of the Nebraska Synod 2017-2024

- Regularly attended NE Synod council meetings and made reports to that body

- Regularly attended/lead synod staff meetings and synod committee meetings

- Was responsible with other Assistants for the synod call process, first call education, lay leadership academy, pastoral care for communities and leaders, synod relations with congregations and leaders, and discipline

- Visited the many congregations of Nebraska, listened to peoples' joys and concerns, engaged in discernment with them as we prayerfully looked for signs of the Holy Spirit at work.

2) Served as half-time Candidacy and Leadership Manager for Region 4 of the ELCA through the Churchwide Office 2020-2024

- Regularly attended candidacy meetings for synods in Region 4. Provided leadership and expertise in ELCA candidacy guidelines and requirements.

- Regularly attended Churchwide Office all-staff meetings and candidacy and leadership team meetings. Learned more about the workings of the Churchwide Office.

- Regularly met with leaders and professors of various seminaries as part of candidate panels.

- Occasionally helped lead ELCA candidacy seminars

- Met often with candidates to listen empathetically and provide counsel. Also advised chairs of synod candidacy committees on navigating difficult task of accompanying candidates faithfully.

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

- Accompany the wonderful people of Mt. Zion Lutheran in New Market as they continue their own community outreach ministry "A Shepherd's Hand" providing emergency gift cards, bill coverage, household goods or supplies, etc. We also partner with Shenandoah Valley Local Ministries and provide bags of food for the students of Minnick School in Harrisonburg to take home.

- I currently volunteer once a month at New Market Food Pantry and serve as a Spanish language interpreter.

- My husband and I currently sponsor and co-lead a small Dungeons and Dragons campaign at the county library for a group of middle-school boys. It's so much fun!



Will serve if elected

This is a self-nomination

Submission

Name of person submitting the form

Kristen Van Stee

Signature

Date Submitted:

Apr 29, 2025

**Intertwining
Hope****Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly****Nominee For:** Committee on Discipline**Committee on Discipline****Nominee For:** Committee on Discipline: Lay Member-Woman**Gender** Female**Age at the time of the Synod Assembly** 31 or older**Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English** No**Nominee Contact Information****Name** Erin Hagar**Preferred Pronouns** she/her**Congregation/Parish Name and Location** Trinity, Pulaski**Conference** New River**Conference Partnership** Appalachia (Highlands & New River)**Nominee Experience****Nominee Occupation** Elementary Teacher - I have taught fifth grade for 24 years**List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)**

- I am a lifelong Lutheran and have been active in various conference, synodical, and churchwide events.
- I have held several leadership roles within my own congregation



List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

-Congregational Call Committee Chair (2022 - 2023)
-Congregational Council Vice-President and Secretary (Have served in the past and am also currently serving)
-Virginia Synodical Women's Organization Parliamentarian (Past)

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

-Randolph House Foundation Board Member and Secretary (2022 -Current) (Foundation provides grants to local non-profit organizations)
-GO Pulaski County Day of Service Project Leader (Past and Current)
-Participate in a variety of community service projects through the Circle of Ruth, our Women of the ELCA congregational unit (Past and Current)

Will serve if elected

Yes

Submission

Name of person submitting the form

Erin Hagar

Signature

Date Submitted:

May 14, 2025

Intertwining
Hope**Nomination Form for 2025 Synod Assembly****Nominee For:** Committee on Discipline**Committee on Discipline****Nominee For:** Committee on Discipline: Rostered Minister: Any Gender**Gender** Male**Age at the time of the Synod Assembly** 31 or older**Do you Identify as a Person of Color and/or Language other than English** No**Nominee Contact Information****Name** Joel S Neubauer**Preferred Pronouns** he/him**Congregation/Parish Name and Location** St. Mark, Yorktown**Conference** Peninsulas**Conference Partnership** Coastal (Tidewater & Peninsulas)**Nominee Experience****Nominee Occupation** Pastor**List experiences or factors that you believe have prepared you for service in this position (up to three)**

-Active service within the ELCA since 2007, in part- and full-time ministry with four congregations of various sizes (New England Synod, 2007-2011; Virginia Synod, 2012-present)

-Senior pastor of my current call since 2014, which has included staff supervision of an associate pastor, a seminary intern and lay ministers

-Skills in pastoral listening and attention to procedural detail (and trusting Christ to be wiser than I).



List current or past congregational, synod or churchwide activities related to qualification for this position (up to three)

-Dean of Peninsulas Conference (2016-present)
-Board of Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp & Retreat (2019-present)
-Visitor to Lutheran World Federation assemblies (Windhoek, Namibia 2017; Krakow, Poland 2023)

List current or past community-related service activities (up to three)

-Special Education Para-educator/Substitute Teacher (2011-2012, while vice pastor in VA Synod)
-Active member of York County Ministers ecumenical association (2014-present)
-Assistant Precinct Chief /Deputy Registrar, York County Voter Registration (2015-present)

Will serve if elected

This is a self-nomination

Submission

Name of person submitting the form

Joel Neubauer

Signature

Date Submitted:

May 14, 2025